

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

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P R 051344Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN PRIORITY

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 8990

USDOC WASHDC

UNCLAS DAMASCUS 5166

TEHRAN FOR UNDER SECRETARY VETTER

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (VETTER, EDWARD OO)

SUBJECT: VISIT OF UNDER SECRETARY OF COMMERCE VETTER

REF: (A) STATE 180652, (B) DAMASCUS 4885, (C) USDOC

12672 (NOTAL)

1. FOLLOWING IS UNDER SECRETARY VETTER'S SCHEDULE DURING
HIS DAMASCUS VISIT:

(A) ARRIVE DAMASCUS 0735, MET AT AIRPORT BY DCM PELLETREAU,
CONTROL OFFICER DAVIS AND MINISTRY OF ECONOMY DELEGATION LED
BY DEUPTY MINISTER DR. ABDULLAH AZMEH;

(B) BRIEFING AND BREAKFAST AT THE RESIDENCE BY AMBASSADOR
AND EMBASSY OFFICERS;

(C) PRIVATE MEETING AT 1030 WITH MINISTER OF ECONOMY
AND FOREIGN TRADE, DR. MOHAMMAD AL-IMADI, AT THE MINISTRY.
THIS MEETING MAY INCLUDE SIGNING OF A BILATERAL OPIC
AGREEMENT IF WASHINGTON PERMISSION IS SECURED IN TIME
(SEE BELOW);

(D) ROUND TABLE MEETING AT APPROX 1100 WITH
DR. IMADI, DR. AZMEH, DEPUTY MINISTER OF ECONOMY,
DR. AMAR JAMMAL AND OTHER SARG OFFICIALS AT MINISTRY OF
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ECONOMY;

(E) TOUR OF U.S. PAVILION AT DAMASCUS INTERNATIONAL FAIR (FOLLOWING CLOSE OF MINISTRY ROUND TABLE MEETING), IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWED BY BRIEF MEETING WITH THE PRESS;

(F) LUNCHEON AT 1430 AT DAMASCUS INTERNATIONAL HOTEL, HOSTED BY DR. IMADI IN HONOR OF UNDER SECRETARY AND HIS PARTY;

(G) AFTERNOON FREE FOR REST OR SHOPPING IN SOUK;

(H) DINNER AT THE RESIDENCE AT 2000 GIVEN BY AMBASSADOR IN HONOR OF UNDER SECRETARY AND PARTY (GUESTS INCLUDE SARG ECONOMIC OFFICIALS, US PAVILION EXHIBITORS AND THEIR AGENTS AND PRIVATE BUSINESSMEN - APPROXIMATELY 80 EXPECTED TO ATTEND.)

(I) AUGUST 10: DEPART RESIDENCE AT APPROXIMATELY 0945 FOR AIRPORT IN TIME FOR 1135 DEPARTURE.

2. MR VETTER AND MR. GOYETTE WILL STAY AT THE RESIDENCE; MISS BLACKMAN WILL BE GUEST OF MR. AND MRS. GORDON RAMSEY, USAID MISSION DIRECTOR.

3. EMBASSY HAS REQUESTED WASHINGTON (SEPTTEL) FOR PERMISSION TO SIGN BILATERAL OPIC AGREEMENT WITH SYRIA; SARG HAS ALREADY AGREED TO SIGN. IF WASHINGTON PERMISSION IS FORTHCOMING IN TIME, WE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE SIGNING CEREMONY TAKE PLACE AT END OF PRIVATE TALK BETWEEN DR. IMADI AND MR. VETTER; DR. IMADI WILL SIGN FOR SYRIA AND AMBASSADOR FOR THE U.S.

4. TEHRAN AND USDOC:

PLEASE SEND ASAP BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION ON MR. VETTER; WE HAVE NO INFORMATION AT POST AND WOULD LIKE TO INFORM PRESS AND SARG OFFICIALS IS "EDWARD O. VETTER" LISTED IN 1974/75 "WHO'S WHO" (OIL/INSTRUMENT EXEC.) SAME AS INCUMBENT UNDER SECRETARY?
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